



City of Seattle

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Seattle Public Utilities

Ray Hoffman, Acting Director

Seattle Public Utilities Ballard Roadside Raingardens Phase I SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS)

Description of Proposal

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) will be installing bioretention facilities in the right-of-way to help manage the stormwater runoff from the street. These "raingarden" facilities will be within the existing planting strips, and in some places will actually "bump" out into the existing roadway where they will also serve as traffic calming features. The bioretention facilities will contain special soils designed to effectively infiltrate and filter stormwater off the road, and will accommodate up to six inches of ponding to help store and treat as much of the runoff as possible. The bioretention facilities will be densely vegetated to help build soil structure and provide attractive landscaping, and will reduce the speed of the water flow to allow sediments and pollutants to settle out, thereby enhancing pollutant removal.

The project will be located within the Ballard Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) basin. SPU is required to control the number of overflows from this basin, which are heavily influenced by stormwater. Bioretention facilities are highly effective at capturing and infiltrating stormwater, which removes it from the combined system and helps to reduce overflows. The results of this project will help guide future application of these facilities in other parts of Ballard and other CSO basins in the City.

Proponent

Seattle Public Utilities
Project Management and Engineering Division
Seattle Municipal Tower
700 5th Avenue Suite 4900
P.O. Box 34018
Seattle, WA 98124-4018

Attn: Karen York, Project Manager – Phone 206 684-5994

Location of Proposal, including street address, if any

The project area is in Seattle, Washington and is 31st Ave NW (west boundary) to 29th Ave NW (east boundary) and NW 85th St (north boundary) to NW 75th St (south boundary). Also 28th Ave NW between NW 65th St and NW 67th St (where NW 67th St enters from the east) and NW 70th St to NW 73rd St (where NW 73rd St enters from the west).

Lead Agency

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), the lead agency for this proposal, has determined that it does not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other related documents on file with the lead agency.

This information may be examined at Seattle Public Utilities offices by contacting the Project Manager listed above.

This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the publication date below.

Comments

Comments must be submitted by September 28, 2009, and must be sent to:

Joy Keniston-Longrie, SEPA Responsible Official
Environmental Permitting and Interagency Coordination
Seattle Public Utilities
Seattle Municipal Tower, Suite 4900
P.O. Box 34018
Seattle, WA 98124-4018
(206) 684-5972

Signature:


Joy Keniston-Longrie

Date:

9-14-2009
September 14, 2009

Date of Publication in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce:

September 14, 2009

Appeals

Appeals of this DNS must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on October 5, 2009. The appeal must be in writing, accompanied by a \$50.00 filing fee in a check made payable to the City of Seattle, and sent to:

City of Seattle Hearing Examiner
700 5th Avenue Suite 4000
P.O. Box 94729
Seattle, WA 98124-4729

You should be prepared to make specific factual objections.

Contact the Hearing Examiner at (206) 684-0521 to ask about or to make arrangements to read the procedures for SEPA appeals.